

Proclamation

WHEREAS, The Senate of the State of Texas joined in recognizing May of this year as Better Speech and Hearing Month; and

WHEREAS, Communication is the skill of sharing thoughts and ideas with one another, and normal communication involves such processes as hearing, understanding, thinking, and speaking; and

WHEREAS, Communication is dependent on healthy physical and mental functioning, and the early detection, diagnosis, and treatment of many impairments can prevent a disorder from developing into a lifelong handicap; and

WHEREAS, To this end Dr. Erik Sloman-Moll purchased state-of-the-art equipment and has acquired and trained staff for the sole purpose of infant hearing screening; and

WHEREAS, In September of 1999 Infant hearing screening program were established and already over 1,131 babies have been tested; approximately five infants who may need medical attention for hearing loss and/or amplification have been identified; without early screening, these children might have gone unidentified for years and missed key developmental milestones in their speech and language; and

WHEREAS, The month of May has been designated Better Speech and Hearing Month by the American Academy of Speech-Language Pathologists and audiologists in order to bring about awareness of the prevalence of persons with communicative disorders and their needs; there are currently as many as 20 million Americans who have some degree of hearing loss; and

WHEREAS, Better Speech and Hearing Month is an opportunity to make the public aware of the rights of the hard-of-hearing and of the current legislation in place regarding the detection of hearing loss in infants; and,

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Louis H. Bruni, by virtue of the authority vested in me as Webb County Judge, and on behalf of the Commissioner's Court, do hereby proclaim May 2004:

"Better Speech and Hearing Month"

In Webb County, Texas and commend Dr. Erik Sloman-Moll and his office for their important speech and hearing programs and encourage all Texans to join organizations across the country in observing Better Speech and Hearing Month; and, be it further

In Witness whereof, We have hereunto signed our names officially and caused the Official Seal of Webb County, Texas to be affixed on this 6th day of May, 2004.

The Honorable Louis H. Bruni
Webb County Judge

The Honorable Jerry Vasquez
Webb County Commissioner Pct. 1

The Honorable Judith G. Gutierrez
Webb County Commissioner Pct. 2

The Honorable Felix Velasquez
Webb County Commissioner Pct. 3

The Honorable David R. Cortez
Webb County Commissioner Pct. 4